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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/808,375	03/25/2004	Kenichi Takahashi	018775-898	4728

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EXAMINER

WORKU, NEGUSSIE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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04/03/2008

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/808,375	Applicant(s) TAKAHASHI ET AL.	
	Examiner NEGUSSIE WORKU	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 March 2007 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/25/04; 10/31/05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is a replay to the application filed on 03/25/04, in which, claims 1-8 are pending. Claims 1, 4 and 8 are independent, and claims 2-3, 5-7 and 9 are dependent.

Priority

2. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 03/25/04, and 10/31/05 have been reviewed. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the examiner is considering the information disclosure statement.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morimoto et al. (USP 6, 994, 4358), in view Beek et al. (USP 2002/0091665).

With respect to claim 1, Morimoto et al. discloses or teaches an image processing system which can code image data, form a JPEG2000 file, and transmit the JPEG2000 file to a plurality of destinations, (a digital camera comprises a image processing system 13 of fig 1, JPEG processing part 25 as shown in fig 1) comprising: a relator which relates a plurality of regions preset in the image data to destinations (image combining means 31 of fig 2, col.6, lines 20-25); a replacer (CPU 27 of fig 2), which replaces code data constituting one of regions corresponding to the destinations or the other regions with code data which make pieces of information included in the regions invisible in the JPEG2000 file transmitted to the destinations (col.5, lines 65 through col.6, lines 1-5); and a transmitter (DMA controller 24 of fig 1, controllers data transfer between processor circuit 13 and main memory 26, col.5, lines 65 through col.6, lines 1-5) which transmits the JPEG2000 file processed by the replacer to the destinations (col.5, lines 5, lines 65, and col.6, lines 1-5).

However, Morimoto (358), does not specifically teach using JPEG2000 file format. But, Beek '665' in the same area of image data accessing and processing teaches using JPEG2000 file format similarly used or intended to having image description format for rendering of an image between plurality of image processing system (col.1, paragraph 0014, lines 16-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the imaging apparatus of Morimoto (358), by the teaching of Beek '665', and therefore, it should be clear to one skilled in

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the art that anyone of a wide variety of image processing and coding of digital device can be similarly employed to accomplish this desired result without depending from the teaching of the present invention, for the purpose of providing the ability to progressively access the encoded image in a smooth continuous fashion with having to download, decode, and/or print the entire file, as suggested by Beek '665, in col.1, paragraph 0005).

With respect to claim 2, Morimoto '358' discloses digital camera comprises a image processing system 13 of fig 1, JPEG processing part 25 as shown in fig 1), wherein different color components are added to the regions preset in the image data, respectively, and the image processing system (still camera 100 of fig 10) comprises a color component detector which detects the color components to recognize the regions (col.2, lines 10-15).

With respect to claim 3, Morimoto '358' discloses digital camera comprises a image processing system 13 of fig 1, JPEG processing part 25 as shown in fig 1), which are common to the plurality of destinations, are simultaneously transmitted, and only different code data is transmitted to the destinations (col.1, paragraph 0014, lines 16-20).

However, Morimoto (358), does not specifically teaches wherein the code data in the JPEG2000 file. But, Beek '665' in the same area of image data accessing and processing teaches using JPEG2000 file format similarly used or intended to having

image description format for rendering of an image between plurality of image processing system (col.1, paragraph 0014, lines 16-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the imaging apparatus of Morimoto (358), by the teaching of Beek '665', and therefore, it should be clear to one skilled in the art that anyone of a wide variety of image processing and coding of digital device can be similarly employed to accomplish this desired result without depending from the teaching of the present invention, for the purpose of providing the ability to progressively access the encoded image in a smooth continuous fashion with having to download, decode, and/or print the entire file, as suggested by Beek '665, in col.1, paragraph 0005).

With respect to claim 4, Morimotot et al. discloses or teaches an image processing system which can code image data, form a JPEG2000 file, and transmit the JPEG2000 file to a plurality of destinations, (a digital camera comprises a image processing system 13 of fig 1, JPEG processing part 25 as shown in fig 1) comprising: a relator which relates a plurality of regions preset in the image data to destinations (image combining means 31 of fig 2, col.6, lines20-25); and a transmitter (DMA controller 24 of fig 1, controllers data transfer between processor circuit 13 and main memory 26, col.5, lines 65 through col.6, lines 1-5) which transmits the JPEG2000 file processed by the replacer to the destinations (col.5, lines 5, lines 65, and col.6, lines 1-5).

However, Morimoto (358), does not specifically teach a data amount reducer which reduces a data amount of code data constituting one of regions corresponding to the destinations or the other regions in the JPEG2000 file transmitted to the destinations

But, Beek '665' in the same area of image data accessing and processing system, a data amount reducer which reduces a data amount of code data constituting one of regions corresponding to the destinations or the other regions in the JPEG2000 file transmitted to the destinations (col.1, paragraph 0014, lines 16-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the imaging apparatus of Morimoto (358), by the teaching of Beek '665', and therefore, it should be clear to one skilled in the art that anyone of a wide variety of image processing and coding of digital device can be similarly employed to accomplish this desired result without depending from the teaching of the present invention, for the purpose of providing the ability to progressively access the encoded image in a smooth continuous fashion with having to download, decode, and/or print the entire file, as suggested by Beek '665, in col.1, paragraph 0005).

With respect to claim 5, Morimoto '358' discloses digital camera comprises a image processing system 13 of fig 1, JPEG processing part 25 as shown in fig 1), wherein the data amount of the code data reduced from the regions by the data amount reducer can be set for the respective destinations and the regions, (col.2, lines 10-15).

With respect to claim 6, Morimoto '358' discloses digital camera comprises a image processing system 13 of fig 1, JPEG processing part 25 as shown in fig 1), wherein different color components are added to the regions preset in the image data, respectively, and the image processing system comprises a color component detector which detects the color components to recognize the regions, (col.2, lines 10-15).

With respect to claim 7, Morimoto '358' discloses digital camera comprises a image processing system 13 of fig 1, JPEG processing part 25 as shown in fig 1), which are common to the plurality of destinations, are simultaneously transmitted, and only different code data is transmitted to the destinations (col.1, paragraph 0014, lines 16-20).

However, Morimoto (358), does not specifically teaches wherein the code data in the JPEG2000 file. But, Beek '665' in the same area of image data accessing and processing teaches using JPEG2000 file format similarly used or intended to having image description format for rendering of an image between plurality of image processing system (col.1, paragraph 0014, lines 16-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the imaging apparatus of Morimoto (358), by the teaching of Beek '665', and therefore, it should be clear to one skilled in the art that anyone of a wide variety of image processing and coding of digital device can be similarly employed to accomplish this desired result without depending from the teaching of the present invention, for the purpose of providing the ability to progressively

access the encoded image in a smooth continuous fashion with having to download, decode, and/or print the entire file, as suggested by Beek '665, in col.1, paragraph 0005).

With respect to claim 9, An image processing method for coding image data, forming a JPEG2000 file, and transmitting the JPEG2000 file to a plurality of destinations, the method comprising steps of: relating a plurality of regions preset in the image data to destinations; replacing code data constituting one of regions corresponding to the destinations or the other regions with code data which make pieces of information included in the regions invisible in the JPEG2000 file transmitted to the destinations; and transmitting the processed JPEG2000 file to the destinations.

With respect to claim 8, Morimoto et al. discloses or teaches an image processing method for coding image data, form a JPEG2000 file, and transmit the JPEG2000 file to a plurality of destinations, (a digital camera comprises a image processing system 13 of fig 1, JPEG processing part 25 as shown in fig 1) comprising: a relator which relates a plurality of regions preset in the image data to destinations (image combining means 31 of fig 2, col.6, lines20-25); a replacer (CPU 27 of fig 2), which replaces code data constituting one of regions corresponding to the destinations or the other regions with code data which make pieces of information included in the regions invisible in the JPEG2000 file transmitted to the destinations (col.5, lines 65 through col.6, lines 1-5); and a transmitter (DMA controller 24 of fig 1, controllers data

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transfer between processor circuit 13 and main memory 26, col.5, lines 65 through col.6, lines 1-5) which transmits the JPEG2000 file processed by the replacer to the destinations (col.5, lines 5, lines 65, and col.6, lines 1-5).

However, Morimoto (358), dose not specifically teach using JPEG2000 file format. But, Beek '665' in the same area of image data accessing and processing teaches using JPEG2000 file format similarly used or intended to having image description format for rendering of an image between plurality of image processing system (col.1, paragraph 0014, lines 16-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the imaging apparatus of Morimoto (358), by the teaching of Beek '665', and therefore, it should be clear to one skilled in the art that anyone of a wide variety of image processing and coding of digital device can be similarly employed to accomplish this desired result without depending from the teaching of the present invention, for the purpose of providing the ability to progressively access the encoded image in a smooth continuous fashion with having to download, decode, and/or print the entire file, as suggested by Beek '665, in col.1, paragraph 0005).

With respect to claim 9, Morimotot et al. discloses or teaches an image processing system method for coding image data, form a JPEG2000 file, and transmit the JPEG2000 file to a plurality of destinations, (a digital camera comprises a image processing system 13 of fig 1, JPEG processing part 25 as shown in fig 1) comprising: a

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relator which relates a plurality of regions preset in the image data to destinations (image combining means 31 of fig 2, col.6, lines 20-25); and a transmitter (DMA controller 24 of fig 1, controllers data transfer between processor circuit 13 and main memory 26, col.5, lines 65 through col.6, lines 1-5) which transmits the JPEG2000 file processed by the replacer to the destinations (col.5, lines 5, lines 65, and col.6, lines 1-5).

However, Morimoto (358), does not specifically teach a data amount reducer which reduces a data amount of code data constituting one of regions corresponding to the destinations or the other regions in the JPEG2000 file transmitted to the destinations

But, Beek '665' in the same area of image data accessing and processing system, a data amount reducer which reduces a data amount of code data constituting one of regions corresponding to the destinations or the other regions in the JPEG2000 file transmitted to the destinations (col.1, paragraph 0014, lines 16-20).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the imaging apparatus of Morimoto (358), by the teaching of Beek '665', and therefore, it should be clear to one skilled in the art that anyone of a wide variety of image processing and coding of digital device can be similarly employed to accomplish this desired result without depending from the teaching of the present invention, for the purpose of providing the ability to progressively access the encoded image in a smooth continuous fashion with having to download, decode, and/or print the entire file, as suggested by Beek '665, in col.1, paragraph 0005).

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NEGUSSIE WORKU whose telephone number is (571)272-7472. The examiner can normally be reached on 9A-6PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on 571-272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Negussie Worku/

Examiner, Art Unit 2625